

first Asian-American mayor of a major city, San Jose, California; the first Japanese American from the contiguous 48 states to serve in Congress; and the first Asian-American cabinet secretary.

When I entered Congress in 1993, I was fortunate to serve with and learn from Norm Mineta. With our Congressional Districts bordering each other, we worked shoulder to shoulder on behalf of our constituents. Our staffs worked closely together as well, and our offices had a friendly baseball competition in which Team Eshoo faced off against Team Mineta.

Secretary Mineta held a great love of his country, and despite being interned during World War II, he was not consumed by bitterness. Among his many contributions to our nation was the key role he played in enacting the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which provided reparations and an official apology to Japanese Americans who were interned during World War II.

While serving as Secretary of Transportation, he was highly regarded for his steady leadership after our country was attacked on September 11, 2001, when he grounded all air traffic in the U.S. in little more than two hours. He is also remembered for his work to establish the Transportation Security Administration, the TSA, and for his insistence, informed by his personal experience having been interned, that the agency never engage in racial profiling.

It is fitting that he was recognized during his life by having the San Jose International Airport named in his honor, and being awarded the prestigious Presidential Medal of Freedom by President George W. Bush.

Through his lifetime of service, Norm Mineta made our country better and stronger. He was a hero in Silicon Valley and beyond, and I'm proud to have worked with him and proud to have been his friend and colleague. I shall miss him greatly and hope that my prayers are a source of comfort to his beloved wife Deni, his sons David and Stuart, his stepsons Robert and Mark, and his many grandchildren.

IN HONOR OF STATE  
REPRESENTATIVE CALVIN SMYRE

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2022*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend a distinguished public servant, principled business leader, trailblazer, and friend of longstanding, State Representative Calvin Smyre of Columbus, Georgia.

Representative Smyre is completing a long and stellar career, spanning 48 years as a member of the Georgia State House of Representatives, where he is the longest serving member in the Georgia legislature. His leadership and political savvy have contributed to a great legacy of service to his community, the State of Georgia, and our nation, and tonight, he will be honored by the Greater Columbus, Georgia Chamber of Commerce in recognition of his tremendous career in public service.

Calvin Smyre was born in Columbus, Georgia on May 17, 1947, to Chief Warrant Officer Ill Carter Smyre, Jr. and the late Mildred Bass

Smyre. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Fort Valley State University in Business Administration with a minor in Accounting.

His career path has taken him from being a community organizer in the "War on Poverty" to corporate executive for a Fortune 500 company and a trailblazing national political leader.

Starting in 1976, as a management trainee at the Columbus Bank and Trust Company, the Columbus-based division of Synovus Financial Corporation, he rose through the ranks to become Vice President of Corporate and External Affairs, President of the Synovus Foundation, and ultimately Senior Vice President and Assistant to the Chairman for Community Affairs.

In 1974, at the age of 26, Calvin Smyre was elected to the Georgia State House of Representatives as its youngest member. In 1984, he was the first African American from Georgia elected to the Democratic National Committee.

In 1979, he was elected Chairman of the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus. In 1982, he was elected President of the Georgia Association of Black Elected Officials. In 1983, he was appointed by Georgia Governor Joe Frank Harris as Assistant Floor Leader, and in 1985, as the first African American Floor Leader. He has served as President of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators, Chairman of the Georgia House Minority Caucus, and Chairman of the Democratic Party of Georgia—these last two being firsts for an African American.

He has received numerous legislative awards and his legislative record includes authoring the bill making Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday a state holiday; creating the historic Georgia Dome, home of the Atlanta Falcons; and construction of the \$62 million Columbus River Center.

He has served on numerous boards, including the Board of Trustees of the Morehouse School of Medicine; the Medical College of Georgia Foundation; the Columbus Museum; and as Chair of the Fort Valley State University Foundation. He was the catalyst for the annual Fountain City Classic football weekend, which brings 20,000 fans to Columbus, Georgia contributing millions of dollars to the local economy.

Representative Smyre is a man of faith and continues to be a lifelong member of the Ward Chapel AME Church in Columbus, Georgia.

Madam Speaker, last Fall, as Representative Smyre neared the end of his long and distinguished legislative and corporate careers, we were all delighted, when President Joseph Biden announced his intent to name Representative Smyre to the United States Diplomatic Corps as Ambassador from the United States to one of the Caribbean islands, pending full Senate Confirmation.

Longfellow wrote: "The heights by great men reached and kept were not attained by sudden flight, but they, while their companions slept, were toiling upward in the night." Representative Smyre has achieved great heights and through his service has done so much for so many for so long.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the Greater Columbus, Georgia Chamber of Commerce, the more than 730,000 people of the

Second Congressional District, his friends, family, and admirers across the country in congratulating, honoring, and commending The Honorable Calvin Smyre for his many years of public service. Moreover, we wish him the best for an imminent and successful Senate Confirmation as he moves into the next chapter of his life.

SKIN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

**HON. BILL FOSTER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2022*

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, as May is Skin Cancer Awareness Month, I rise today to draw my colleagues' attention to the importance of knowing the risks for common skin cancers and treatment options.

I am a skin cancer survivor, thanks to regular screenings and early detection. My father was not so lucky and passed away from untreated skin cancer.

Our skin is our largest organ, protecting us from temperature extremes, injury, and infection. When our skin is exposed to the sun for an excessive amount of time, particularly our face, neck, arms, and hands, DNA damage can occur, resulting in non-melanoma skin cancer.

It is estimated that 1 in 5 Americans will develop skin cancer by the age of 70, making this the most common type of cancer amongst Americans. On average, 3.4 million new cases of skin cancer are diagnosed every year, with thousands of those cases resulting in death. With early detection, the 5-year survival rate for melanoma is 99 percent. Today, treatment options include both surgery and non-surgical radiotherapy.

Everyone should take steps to avoid skin cancer. Do self-exams. See your primary care doctor or dermatologist annually and tell them about your risk factors, including sun exposure, use of indoor tanning devices, age, prior skin cancer or family history, and other health conditions. Use broad-spectrum sunscreen that filters both ultraviolet A (UVA) and ultraviolet B (UVB) rays and offers a sun protection factor (SPF) of 30 or higher every day. Limit your exposure during peak sun hours (10 am to 4 pm), and wear sunglasses with 100 percent UV protection and a wide-brimmed hat.

APRIL CONSTITUENT OF THE  
MONTH, RYAN HICKMAN

**HON. MIKE LEVIN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2022*

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize San Juan Capistrano resident, Ryan Hickman, as my April Constituent of the Month. Ryan began recycling for his family at the early age of three, and since then he has grown his passion of helping people all over the world to recycle and be better stewards of the planet.

Growing up, Ryan pursued his passion of preventing bottles and cans from reaching the ocean, and he now leads cleanups all over the world. To this day, Ryan spends a part of